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6.41095X00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: WATANABE, et al.
Serial No.: 10/051,025
Filed: January 22, 2002
For: PRODUCTION OF DIMETHYLOLCARBOXYLIC ACID
Group: Unassigned
Examiner: Unassigned

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.97 AND 1.98**

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

April 10, 2003

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicants' duty of disclosure, enclosed please find a copy a European Search Report and documents cited therein, in connection with a European patent application corresponding to the above-identified application. Also enclosed is a Form, substantially equivalent to Form PTO-1449, listing the enclosed documents.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted prior to a first Office Action on the merits in the above-identified application. Clearly, requirements of 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b) are satisfied.

In any event, the following statement is made under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e).

Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

To the extent that the enclosed documents are not in English, requirements of 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3) are satisfied by the enclosed European Search Report and English abstract in the Werle, et al. article.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all applicable requirements of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98 have been satisfied, in connection with present submission of the enclosed European Search Report and document cited therein. Accordingly, consideration of the enclosed documents, upon examination of the above-identified application, is respectfully requested.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (396.41095X00) and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'William I. Solomon', written over a horizontal line.

William I. Solomon
Registration No. 28,565

Attachments

WES:nbf

